



NRC NEWS

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NRC UPDATES CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION PROCEDURES FOR POSSIBLE NEW NUCLEAR PLANTS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued overall guidance for developing construction inspection manuals and procedures to be used by NRC inspectors if new nuclear power plants are built in the United States.

The guidance document, NUREG-1789, is the culmination of efforts, dating back to 1991, to update the NRC's Construction Inspection Program (CIP). The new framework addresses the use of the combined construction permit/operating license process, including the use of early site permits and certified standard plant designs. The document incorporates existing requirements in areas such as tests, analyses and acceptance criteria, providing allowances for the rapid schedules possible with today's modular and parallel construction techniques.

"The NRC is developing a CIP Information Management System to coordinate inspections with licensee construction schedules," said Bruce Boger, Director of the Division of Inspection Program Management in the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. "The system will also make it easier to access, retrieve and track inspection findings and related information."

The CIP framework covers four phases of a new reactor project: Early Site Permit, Combined License, construction activities and preparations for operations. NUREG-1789 is available through the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System on the agency's web site, by entering accession number ML041340633 at this address:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html> . Help in using ADAMS is available from the Public Document Room staff by calling 1-800-397-4209.

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